The Southern PATRIOT

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Target: Integration

Segregation Showdown Near

"Thank God for what you have and He will give you more; trust Him. He is more powerful than the NAACP. When it comes through Him there will be no fight.

"RETIRED NEGRO TEACHER."

Thus ran a letter in the Charlotte (N.C.) **Observer** referring to the Federal District Court decision June 21st on the Clarendon case.

But taking its text from more vigorous passages of the Holy Writ, the NAACP is going to fight, appealing to the U. S. Supreme Court the verdict which proclaimed segregation a matter of "state policy" beyond federal control.

The suit was brought in Clarendon County, S. C., urging that the public schools in that predominantly Negro area be opened without discrimination. It was the first case demanding integrated educational facilities in public schools to reach the federal courts and presented a direct challenge to the 57-year-old Plessy "separate but equal" rule of thumb which has guided judicial views on racial matters.

Attorneys for the state of South Carolina freely admitted the inadequacies of the Negro school system and begged for time to "equalize" the facilties.

"Segregation Is Per Se Inequality"

This the three-judge panel granted, and, by a majority of one, considered that justice had been done. Jim Crow was left pristine and unpruned. However, the dissenter, Judge J. Waties Waring, in a separate opinion (highlights of which we are reprinting on page 4), raised issues which the Supreme Court will find hard to evade. "Segregation is per se inequality," he declared.

And if school was out for the summer, there still was no let up in the battle for decent education elsewhere in the South, either.

Georgia, North Carolina and Florida all acted as if they had never heard of the Sweatt case and rejected Negro applicants to state university graduate schools.

Horace Ward was rejected by a Georgia U. Law School which cowers before the Talmadge threat to dissolve any state institution admitting Negroes. (Incidental insight on official enlightenment in the Peachtree State: A loyalty oath for welfare workers in which segregation must be sworn to was proposed to the legislature.)

Georgia Plan Fails in Alabama-Florida

Virgil D. Hawkins, William T. Lewis, Benjamin F. Finley, Olive R. Maxey and Ross Boyd were denied the right to pursue various courses in the U. of Florida Graduate School. Governor Fuller Warren, however, vetoed a measure modelled after a Georgia statute that would have cut off funds for all Florida colleges if racial segregation were ended in any one of them. In Alabama similar legislation sponsored by Rep. Englehardt of Macon was defeated 66-26.

North Carolina U. Graduate School rejected the applications of Albert Whittaker and Nelson Higgins, Jr. Gwendolyn Harrison was first turned down then grudgingly admitted. And Gov. Kerr Scott, facing the prospect of suits similar to the Clarendon case, made a hollow gambit to allay the inevitable by warning that a Negro teacher could find no work in the integrated school system.

On the Positive Side of the Ledger

Louisiana balked at admitting a second Negro, Lutrell A. Payne, to its state university but yielded to a brusque federal injunction. Later LSU said two more Negro students would be admitted to the law school. And in Oklahoma, the **Black Dispatch** estimates that some 700 Negro teachers attended summer school at state colleges.

Wayland College, a Baptist institution at Plainview, Tex., became the first in the state to offer its facilities on a completely non-segregated basis .

"We felt it was the only Christian thing to do," Wayland President J. W. Marshall said. And this remark, we think, represents an adequate answer to the **Charlotte Observer's** "Retired Negro Teacher."

JUDGE J. WATIES WARING

Segregation is Per Se Inequality

Excerpts from Judge Waring's dissent. Also see adjoining article.

The Amendment (the Fourteenth) refers to ALL persons. There is nothing in there that attempts to separate, segregate or discriminate against any persons because of their being of European, Asian or African ancestry. And the plain intendment is that all of these persons are citizens. And then it is provided that no State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges of citizens nor shall any state deny "to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

. . . The question of the right of the state to practice segregation by race in certain educational facilities has only recently been tested in the courts. The cases of **Gaines v. Canada**, 305 U.S. 337 and **Sipuel v. Board of Regents**, 332 U.S. 631 decided that Negroes were entitled to the same type of legal education that whites were given. It was further decided that the equal facilities must be furnished without delay or as was said in the Sipuel case, the state must provide for equality of education for Negroes **"as soon as it does for applicants of any other group."** But still we have not

(Continued on Page 4.)

A Negro surgeon is assisted at Memorial Hospital, Phoenix, by two white doctors—one from Mexico—and a white nurse. The patient was oblivious to a racial problem.

At this Hospital: All Ra

By Phil Stitt, Staff Member,
Memorial Hospital, Phoenix, Arizona.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, in Phoenix, Arizona, is a successful proving ground for the idea that people of all races can live and work and study together in harmony, and that economic opportunity and a free mind are all that are needed for individuals of oppressed races to vastly improve their position and their contributions to mankind.

The hospital has also proved that even in a Jim Crow city white doctors, nurses and patients will seek out, without prejudice, an institution with the courage to give top service to all on an equal basis.

Memorial, until recently known as St. Monica's, was built in 1944 by the Federal Works Agency as a defense project —the successor to a small frame institution founded by Emmett McLoughlin, who is now its full time superintendent. The idea of the hospital was conceived because McLoughlin, who considered segregation un-Christian, was unable to get other hospitals to provide needed nursing education for a few Negro girls. It was actually built because he had the unusual perseverance and ability required to promote his "brain storm".

After seven years of operation, Memorial is now Arizona's busiest general hospital, with 232 beds that are full most of the time. Because it treats all comers, not only without racial but without economic prejudice, the non-tax-supported hospital has had to depend on exceptional efficiency and loyalty from its personnel. These it has certainly had, partly as a direct dividend from its open-minded policy and partly as a tribute to the man who had the faith to build a hospital on that policy.

Applications for admission to the Memorial Hospital School of Nursing are received from Negro and Spanish-speaking girls (there are considerably more of the latter than the former in Arizona), and from Indians and Nisei (Americans of Japanese descent) from throughout the country. It has therefore been possible for the school to select only those with the very highest qualifications. And since all applicants are made fully aware of the school's inter-racial policy and total lack of discrimination, the white girls applying for admittance automatically demonstrate the very tolerance and depth of human understanding that are one of the important qualifications for a successful nurse. As a result the school has attracted an unusually high order of student.

About 60 percent of girls qualifying for the nursing school have been whites. No Negro graduate who has taken Arizona's state nursing examination has failed to pass it, and Memorial's graduates generally rate at the top in competition with those of the state's other nursing schools. Since nearly all of the Negro graduates return to their own communities most of the registered nurses employed by the hospital are whites.

Not only in the nursing school, but in all departments from housekeeping to the technical laboratories there exists an admixture of races working in complete harmony.

A clue to the high esprit de corps among the hospital's personnel may be found in the case of Arthur Rosser, a young Negro of Phoenix who was employed at the hospital as a janitor. His interest in radio and other electrical devices was known to McLoughlin; so when General Electric requested permission to use the hospital's X-Ray equipment in conducting a course for technicians, it was given with the provision that Rosser would receive instruction without charge. Today Rosser is senior X-Ray Technician at the hospital and is a member of the American Registry of X-Ray Technicians and of the American Society of X-Ray Technicians. He was instrumental in organizing the Arizona State Society of X-Ray Technicians and has served as chairman of its Executive Board. Last year he was president of the Central Arizona District of the state society.

The housekeeping department is headed by a Negro college graduate who employs and supervises all the maids and

Student Nurse Bernice Cook (seated) knows that a disease is not disturbed by the color or ancestry of the person who enters its name on a medical record.

Live and work Together

janitors—whites, Negroes and Spanish-speaking. Colored girls are employed in the business office, laboratory—in fact nearly every department.

Memorial's medical record department has long been given exceptionally high ratings by the American Medical Society and American College of Surgeons. There are both colored and Japanese assistant librarians. The hospital pharmacy includes among its apprentices a Negro student from the University of Arizona College of Pharmacy and a young blonde refugee from Esthonia.

The open policy of Memorial Hospital has extended to the house medical staff as well. Attracted by the active emergency room service and numerous outpatient clinics giving promise of wide experience, internes have come to this Phoenix hospital from China, Turkey, Mexico, Philippines, Burma, Iraq, Latvia, and Germany as well as all parts of the United States. They have come from Duke University, Tulane, University of Arkansas, University of Mississippi and many other southern schools . The hospital has yet to find one of them who—at least away from his home—displays any racial prejudice. All applicants, however, are informed that they will have to work with Negro doctors and Negro nurses. Those who have accepted have been enthusiastic about the idea.

One Negro physician who served a residency at Memorial later became the first of his race west of the Mississippi to be elected to the American College of Surgeons. He is now practicing in Phoenix and it is not uncommon to find in the hospital's operating rooms a Negro surgeon assisting or being assisted by white doctors and nurses.

To fully appreciate the significance of Memorial Hospital, it must be understood that Arizona is almost as southern in its racial attitude as Louisiana. It has long had compulsory segregation in most of its schools; there is segregation in theaters and practically all the hotels and restaurants. Negroes live in their own poorer sections of the city, some of which they share with the large Spanish-speaking population that in most ways also suffers from discriminatory practices.

It was the opinion of many people when the hospital was started that due to its inter-racial policy it could never be anything but a Grade B hospital. It was actually the feeling of many of the directors of other hospitals at the time that this one should be encouraged for the reason that it would take care of the underprivileged and Negro patients, thus relieving those hospitals from what they considered to be a problem.

Surprise and even disappointment has been the lot of those directors, for Memorial's progressive administration has resulted in medical association ratings that compare favorably with any hospital in the United States.

Unquestionably some prejudiced doctors and patients have avoided Memorial Hospital because of the inter-racial policy. But not many. And lots of those prejudiced persons who have come here as emergency cases, or at the insistence of their doctors, or to obtain services and treatment not available in other hospitals, have lost their prejudices along with their ailments.

The superintendent, not satisfied with his own observations and opinions, secured the services of Southwest Opinion Research, an independent polling organization, to determine patients' attitudes toward being served by nurses of mixed races. Almost always the reaction was favorable—even glowing.

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